Scholarships to SC/ST and OBC Post-Matriculation Students

3228. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration for granting scholarships to scheduled caste/scheduled tribe and other backward classes post-matriculation students of Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) to (c) No. Sir, No proposal has been received by the Ministry for sanction for release of central assistance under the scheme of Post Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes from the States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Jammu & Kashmir for the financial year 2003-04.

Corpus fund of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation

3229. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Working Group on Empowering the Minorities constituted by the Planning Commission has recommended that the corpus fund of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation be raised to Rs. 200 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the corpus fund of the foundation has been raised as recommended by the Working Group; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Working Group on Empowering the Minorities has recommended that corpus fund of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation may be raised from Rs. 70.00 crore to Rs. 200 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) A proposal to raise the corpus to Rs. 100 crore is being processed.